



# LIBRARY COMMISSION NEWSLETTER

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PUBLIC LIBRARY  
GRANT PROGRAM  
TAKES  
GIANT STRIDES

The cash grant-in-aid program, which was authorized by the Legislature in 1969, reached the \$800,000 mark with approval of the state budget in late July. To increase and broaden the impact of the additional monies (a 100% increase over previous years), 10¢ per capita was reserved for use in resolving personnel shortages.

The members of West Virginia Library Commission, meeting in regular session on August 23, adopted a basic grant plan which earmarked 30¢ per capita for general use by libraries and service centers. More stringent regulations delineated the responsibilities of service center and regional libraries. Very apparent and positive gains were represented by these new programs:

- a. All public libraries in the state must be open at least thirty hours per week. State aid will cover the costs of keeping them open for the additional hours.
- b. Special grants for personnel will provide for the salaries of a second professional in every library system. Special grants to help library systems meet national standards and an additional half time person for every Instant Library is also offered.
- c. Library systems not desiring to use grant money for personnel have the privilege of appeal.

DOOR WIDENED  
FOR  
CASH GRANTS

The new regulations are an opportunity for a smaller library in a county or town to qualify for grant-in-aid cash payments. This would apply to libraries not desiring to be a regional or service center library. If a professionally trained librarian is hired on the staff and the local support budget reaches \$25,000 or \$1.00 per capita (whichever is greater), a library can be designated to receive per capita cash payments for population served. The library has five years in which to bring its local budget up to \$2.00 per capita to retain its designated status.

EXPOSURE!

A  
DIVISION  
OF  
WVLC

If you have missed the magnetic brochure just published by our new public relations department, we suggest that you send for a copy. The Exposure! Department is designed to help West Virginia's libraries project a new image. Members of the new "make it happen" staff are Carol Bryan, graphic artist; Lee Soard, Printer; Ross Taylor, photographer; and Steve Christo, multi-media producer. Contact Mrs. Bryan for your PR needs. Her brochure is entitled, "It's OK to Shout About the Library".

CONSTRUCTION  
GRANTS

Five hearings were conducted during the August Commission Meeting concerning Construction Requests.

- (1) The Vienna Library Board was granted \$175,000 to complete a \$320,000 project. Other funds for the project include \$25,000 raised in a local drive, \$45,000 from Revenue Sharing (City), and \$45,000 from the County Court. Architect is Charles Ross.
- (2) Boone-Madison Library Board was granted \$75,000 to complete the remodeling of a bank building. This project was started in March under a contract with Southern Builders. \$30,000 had previously been awarded and the community is to raise \$20,000 to complete the work on the third floor.
- (3) A \$350,000 award went to Roane County Library Board in Spencer where the Alpha Regional Library headquarters will share a building. Total cost will come to \$600,000 with Wilson and King, architects of St. Albans, as designers.
- (4) Putnam County Library Board requested \$98,000 as a supplement to a previous \$150,000 award. They were granted \$75,000 toward completion of a half million dollar building designed by Donald Moses for the Putnam Village Shopping Center in Winfield.
- (5) Carnegie Library of Parkersburg and Wood County requested \$160,000 for completion of their two million dollar main library building designed by Robert Bailey. No grant was made since date the funds will be needed in another fiscal year.

The Morgantown Public Library requested and was granted a \$7,209 equipment award for Terra Alta Public Library which is to occupy a remodeled commercial building in the heart of town.

HIGHLIGHTS  
FROM  
WVLA

The Fifty-ninth Annual Conference of the West Virginia Library Association met at Pipestem, October 10-12. Elliott Horton of Morgantown, President, presided at General Sessions. Featured speakers included Dr. Jean Lowrie, retiring President of the American Library Association, and Mrs. Nancy Stiegemeyer, Trustee Representative from the American Library Trustee Association.

1. Director, Jackson County Library, Mr. Ju Hi Chung of Chapel Hill, North Carolina. A native of Seoul, Korea, he was graduated from University of North Carolina School of Library Science in 1971. A linguist in Japanese and several languages, Mr. Chung seeks experience in community development.
2. Information and Reference Librarian, Raleigh County Library, Beckley. John B. Dickson. Most recently employed as Assistant Business Librarian, Toledo-Lucas Public Library. A graduate of University of Pittsburgh's School of Library and Information Science, he has worked in model cities centers and has degree in both business and education.
3. Reference Librarian, Morgantown Public Library, Stephen James Crowley. Recently graduated from School of Librarianship at Western Michigan University. Has had practical experience in public libraries in New Jersey and is active in drama.
4. Assistant Director, Martinsburg Public Library. Ms. Phyllis MacLennan. A recent graduate of the University of Kentucky's library school. Holds degrees in journalism and education and has published considerably in science fiction field.
5. Reference Librarian, City-County Library at Moundsville. Shelia Ritzmann. A graduate of the University of Southern California's library school. She has most recently worked as Serials Librarian at the University of Cincinnati and as a public librarian at Long Beach.
6. Adult Services Librarian, Ohio County Library, Wheeling. Sherry Scott is a graduate of the University of North Carolina's library school and has just completed two years as a director of a two county regional library near Roanoke, Virginia.

West Virginia Library Commission  
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